

To: Rob Cooke  
Lynn Oleary

From: Kathy Kelly  
DWR

Date: 10/16/98

Re: Early draft of the Delta Long-term Levee Protection Plan, 9/98

Attached are DWR's comments to the subject report. I am forwarding them to you for your information and to serve as a basis for your continuing discussions with Curt Schmutte.

I am asking that you work with Curt and the others to incorporate the concerns expressed in their subsidence report. Subsidence mitigation techniques are just starting to be investigated. The significance of interior-island subsidence upon the levee configuration proposed by CALFED is unknown. Both of these conditions support a strong research and monitoring effort within the levee protection plan. Pilot projects testing subsidence management techniques should be included in the research plan.

It also seems appropriate to describe actions that would be taken under the levee protection plan to manage land where subsidence has been determined to significantly work against CALFED objectives. One of the actions to be considered in this case would be the large-scale projects to implement subsidence mitigation, as mentioned on page 24 of the subsidence report. Of course, the conditions under which this would occur would be the same as any other proposed land use change—public lands first and willing-seller only, and would only occur if research showed land management techniques would be effective.

I hope this helps to develop a protection plan all agencies can support. I apologize for the delay in getting the comments to you. If you would like to discuss this further, call me at 653-1099.